



Flathead County Emergency Medical Services Administrative Board

Flathead County EMS
1035 1st Avenue West
Kalispell, MT 59901
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emslife@flathead.mt.gov

November 16th, 2009
Regular Meeting

Members Present

Wayne Miller, MD
Velinda Stevens (2:19p)
Jason Spring
Myrt Webb
Bob Kun

Others Present

Mark Peck
Tim Soule
Mary Granger
Tom Kennelly
Kris Long
Dan Diehl
Lance Westgard
Amanda Lindgren
Rodney Dresbach
Rob Bates, MD
Peter Steele

Call to Order

Meeting was called to order by Dr. Miller at 2:10p

Approval of Agenda

MOTION to approve agenda as received, Kun
SECOND, Webb
Approved

Approval of Minutes

MOTION to approve Minutes for October 19th, 2009, Kun
SECOND, Webb
Approved

MOTION to approve Minutes for November 2nd, 2009, Webb
SECOND, Kun
Approved

Citizen Comments

None

Ad Hoc report

The committee met on November 10th to discuss 2010 allocation options. The recommendation is to use the population-based formula utilized in FY 2009, for the initial allocation. This will allow the Board time to discuss and produce an allocation formula based on performance and call volume for the next disbursement. Miller and Webb agreed to this recommendation only this once and will not agree with it again. Columbia Falls turned down this year's allocation and 100% of these monies were split between West Side Ambulance and ALERT. There was

discussion over whether the committee wanted to disburse 100% of the prior Columbia Falls allocation or 50%. It was decided to leave the amounts as recommended (100%).

MOTION to approve *Ad Hoc* recommendation, Webb

SECOND, Kun

Approved

Consider West Valley Fire Request

MOTION to remove the request from the table, Webb

SECOND, Spring

Approved

The Board discussed the West Valley Department request with Dr. Rob Bates, West Valley Medical director. Bates discussed how, anecdotally, it would seem there is a gap in coverage in the northern West Valley area but there has been little discussion on how much of a benefit an ambulance would be or how it would be staffed. Soule described the continuing efforts to gather information from both West Valley Fire and Smith Valley Fire. Response coverage areas were being mapped to help determine gaps in response areas. There may be a need for a transporting agency in this area, but there may be a way to utilize our existing resources more effectively. Soule recommended the Board wait on the West Valley Fire request to allow him to develop a plan with the West Valley chief to determine the need, develop a staffing plan, and hopefully utilize existing ground transport units. Soule would also develop a “special” proposal process that would give all units an equal opportunity to be heard before the board and also allow the board to allocate funds based upon priorities rather than “first come-first served”

MOTION to deny request, Webb

SECOND, Spring

Approved

Paramedic Manager’s Report

i. Budget revision update, (attached)

ii. Consider spending authority for Manager

The board will do some research into other county entities. At this time the discussion will be tabled until the next meeting.

iii. Consider dedicated vehicle request

Soule explained the need for the Manager to purchase a dedicated vehicle for County business. Soule requested \$25,000, \$21,000 for the vehicle and \$4000 for radios, emergency lighting and striping. Soule also explained he is moving forward to create a Flathead County QRU. The QRU will be available upon request and provide support throughout the county. Spring questioned why this request would be approved when we had just denied the West Valley request.

MOTION to approve vehicle purchase request, Kun

SECOND, Webb

For, Kun, Miller, Webb

Against, Spring

Obstains, Stevens
Approved

- iv. Distribution of Health Departments EMS Regulations (discussion only)
The regulations were presented to the board members for revision. The document will need to be rewritten to fit the current structure and mission of the Board.
- v. Deputy County Attorney comment on use of funds
Deputy County Attorney Peter Steele attended the meeting to discuss questions surrounding the levy fund distribution. Attorney Steele did not find anything in the Levy language that would disallow the disbursement of funds to an entity due to their business structure or for any reason, as long as it fell within the parameters outlined in the levy language. Attorney Steele found no reason, in the language, that funds cannot be disbursed to a for-profit organization or used for personnel costs by any type of organization.

Establish Date, time, and place of regular meetings

The EMS Administrative Board will meet the 3rd Monday of every month at 2p. This time and place will continue until the board has discussed otherwise.

Other Business/Future agenda items

Webb would like to produce a generic allocation request document for all units. There would be a separate document for special requests. Webb and Soule will create this document before the next board meeting.

A question was also presented to Attorney Steele regarding the use of levy monies to purchase buildings and equipment when that company becomes defunct. Attorney Steele stated a claim would be valid.

Board Member Comments

Dr. Miller stated a new appointment to the State of Montana Board of Medical examiners is an EMT-P.

MOTION to adjourn, Stevens

SECOND, Webb

Approved

Meeting adjourned at 3:30p.